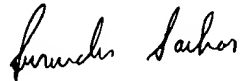


differences which would broaden the scope of new Claims 39-93. The Abstract has also been amended to be in more proper format under United States practice.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Registration No. 25,599
Attorney of Record
Surinder Sachar
Registration No. 34,423



22850

(703) 413-3000
Fax #: (703)413-2220
GJM:SNS/smi

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Serial No: _____

Amendment Filed on: _____

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-38 have been cancelled.

Claims 39-93 have been added.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the abstract as follows:

--ABSTRACT

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[The object of the present invention is to provide a] A massaging apparatus in which a position of a specific portion such as a user's shoulder with respect to the massaging apparatus can be determined automatically and accurately in a simple construction. The massaging apparatus [according to the present invention comprises] includes a supporting arm [26] having a therapeutic member pivotally supported thereon and freely movable along the user's body[, wherein] The [the] position of the specific portion of the user with respect to the massaging apparatus is determined from the relation between the vertical position of the supporting arm [26] and the pivotal position of the supporting arm [26]. A pivotal movement detecting system [60 for detecting] detects that the supporting arm [26] reaches a prescribed range of pivotal movement is provided. The position of the specific portion of the user with respect to the massaging apparatus is determined from the position of the

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supporting arm [26] at the moment when the pivotal movement of the supporting arm [26]
reaches the prescribed range.--

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